

PHYTOGEOGRAPHIC NOTES ON ROTTBOELLIA,
PASPALUM, AND MISCANTHUS (GRAMINEAE)¹

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Paspalum fimbriatum H. B. K. Additional records from Florida.

This tropical species occurs in northern South America and the West Indies but has not been previously reported from the continental United States. It is abundant in orchards north of Homestead, Florida, and occurs along the Keys Highway. The author has made the following collections:

FLORIDA: DADE COUNTY: In an avocado orchard west of Princeton, Sec. 27, R. 39 E, T. 56 S. *Pohl 7589*. June 22, 1957 (ISC). MONROE Co.: Median strip of U. S. Hy. 1, Key Largo, 3 miles by road n. of Port Largo. *Pohl 9182*. April 13, 1962 (ISC).

Rottboellia exaltata L.f.: A second American station.

This Asiatic species was reported by Hitchcock and Chase (1950) from Miami. It grows in abundance on dry coral in vacant lots in Homestead, forty miles southwest. First seen there by the author in 1957, it had increased markedly by 1962.

FLORIDA: DADE COUNTY: Weed in vacant lot on dry coral, Homestead. *Pohl 7584*. June 22, 1957. (ISC); Homestead. *Pohl 9177*. April 12, 1962. (ISC).

Miscanthus sacchariflorus (Maxim.) Hack. in the Midwest.

The Asiatic ornamental grass, *M. sacchariflorus* (Fig. 1) was first listed by Hitchcock and Chase (1950) from Clinton Co., Iowa, where it was an escape from cultivation. Steyermark, *et al*, (1957) gave several Illinois localities as well, and I have reported it from fourteen counties of eastern Iowa. On recent field trips in southeastern Iowa, I have noticed this species spreading aggressively along roadsides throughout this area. Apparently it is introduced as an

¹Journal paper No. J-4484 of the Iowa Agricultural and Home Economics Experiment Station, Ames, Iowa. Project No. 1136.

ornamental and later spreads by rhizomes from cultivated patches, particularly along roadsides and ditches. Spread by seed is evident in some areas, where small satellite colonies occur near original plantings. Many of the colonies observed during 1962 were remote from buildings and probably arose from seed. *M. sacchariflorus* was also seen growing as an ornamental in southern Minnesota. Four recent collections from Wisconsin now add that state to the range of this species. The writer is indebted to Dr. Hugh Iltis for the loan of two of the Wisconsin specimens cited below.

The vigor and large size of *M. sacchariflorus*, coupled with its aggressive rhizomatous spread, make it a potentially dangerous weed, with many of the qualities which Johnson grass exhibits in the South.

WISCONSIN: LAFAYETTE Co.: Two colonies along n. side of Hy. 11, 1.5 mi. e. of South Wayne. *Pohl 9330*. August 6, 1962. (ISC, MIL). This colony has existed for at least ten years, according to the author's observations. GRANT Co.: Sec. 21, T 1 N, R 2 W, Jamestown Twp. Roadside and field on east side of Wis. Hy. 35; one colony about 8 ft. in diameter. *R. W. Freckmann, (F). 62-158*. Oct. 13, 1962 (ISC); T 1 N, R 2 W, Sec. 28. *H. H. Iltis 18478*. Aug. 10, 1961 (WIS). WAUSHARA Co., T 8 N, R 9 E, Sec 30. Road bank. *K. Pochmann 49*. Sept. 5, 1957 (WIS).

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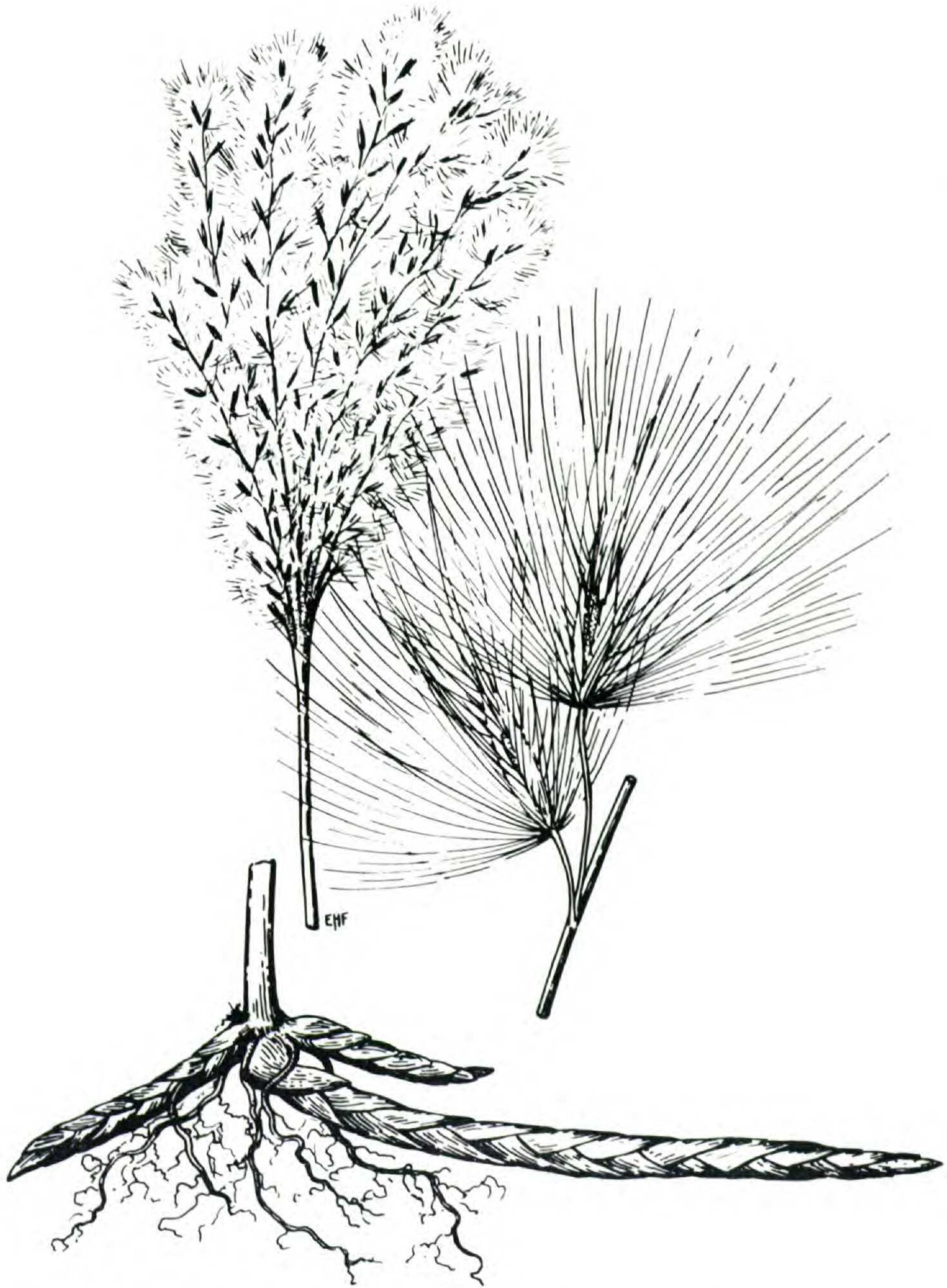


Fig. 1. *Miscanthus sacchariflorus*. Inflorescence and rhizome.